CH.18: SWORD OF THE GENTLEMAN

第十八話 君子劍

SUCH AN ASTONISHING INTERNAL ENERGY! WHO IS IT?!

...IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S THE 'DIVINE VIOLET TWILIGHT TECHNIQUE'!
DON'T TELL ME HE'S ARRIVED?!
AND THE STRENGTH WOULD BE LATER RELEASED LIKE A STORM WITH DEVASTATING POWER THAT OVERWHELMS ANY ATTEMPT TO COUNTER IT. NUMBING MY HANDS...
IN MY HANDS, THE STYLE OF INNER ENERGY FELT INDISTINCT LIKE THE TWILIGHT IN THE SKY, BUT THE STAMINA HAD GREAT PERSISTENCY.
HAHA! IF IT ISN'T BROTHER YUE OF MT HUA SECT! WHY ARE YOU PLAY TRICKS ON A HUNCHBACK WHILE HIDING IN THE CORNER?

BROTHER MU, IT'S BEEN A WHILE. YOU STILL LOOK SO YOUNG AND ENERGETIC AFTER ALL THESE YEARS HOW WONDERFUL!
LEADER OF MT HUA SECT, YUE BUQUN

HE EXUDES A GOD LIKE AURA IN HIS PRESENCE!
SO THIS MAN IS MR YUE, THE LEADER OF MT HUA SECT?
WITH NOBODY LENDING HIM A HELPING HAND, HE HAD THUS BEEN FEELING INADEQUATE AND IN DESPAIR.
EVER SINCE THE AGENCY CAME UNDER ATTACK, LIN PINGZHI HAS BEEN ON HIS OWN.
HAS HE COME TO SAVE ME?

WITH YUE BUQUN TURNING UP, FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, IT FELT AS THOUGH LIN PINGZHI IS FINALLY WAKING UP FROM THE NIGHTMARE

BAH! YOU HUNCHBACK, STOP THE SILLY JOKES WHEN OLD FRIENDS REUNITE, THERE ARE MANY GOOD TOPICS TO TALK ABOUT YET YOU ONLY SPOUT NONSENSE! HOW WOULD I KNOW SUCH AN OBSCENE METHOD?
BROTHER YUE, YOU ARE JUST GETTING YOUNGER AND YOUNGER I WISH YOU COULD BE MY MASTER AND TEACH ME THIS 'YIN YANG NOURISHMENT' METHOD HAHA!
HERE MU GAOFENG IS REFERRING TO A METHOD OF HAVING INTERCOURSE WITH MULTIPLE FEMALES AND USE THE ENERGY ABSORBED TO NOURISH ONE'S OWN HEALTH MOST PEOPLE CONSIDER RECORDS OF THISSO CALLED TECHNIQUE AS NOTHING MORE THAN JUST PORNOGRAPHY/ EROTICA OF ITS DAYS

OTHERWISE, HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO LOOK AS YOUNG AS MY GRANDSON WHEN YOU ARE ACTUALLY ALMOST SIXTY YEARS OLD?
NOBODY'S GOING TO BELIEVE THAT YOU DON'T KNOW THAT NOURISHMENT METHOD

OH CRAP, MY MASTER IS HERE. WE BETTER RUN!

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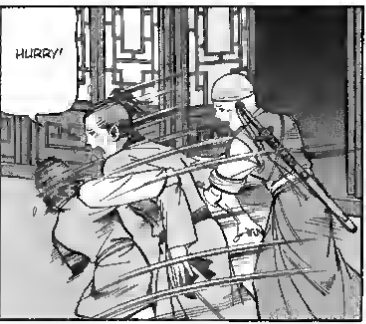
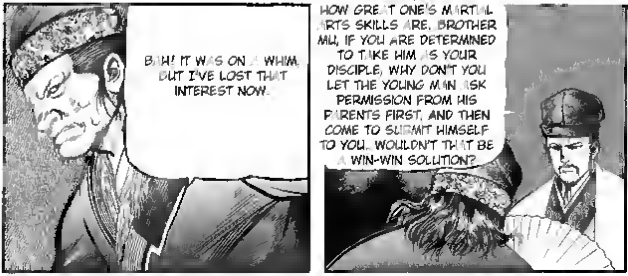

HURRY!

DAMN, NOW I'M REALLY SCREWED FOR REAL !

MY MASTER'S SENSES ARE REALLY SHARP. THE MOMENT I STEP OUT HE'S PROBABLY GOING TO NOTICE.
LINGHU CHONG, SURE DIDN'T EXPECT A BOLD AND RECKLESS MAN LIKE YOU TO FEAR YOUR TEACHER SO MUCH!
WHAT TO DO...?
BROTHER MU IS KIDDING ME AGAIN
BROTHER MU, THIS YOUNG MAN IS A DUTIFUL SON, ALSO A MAN OF INTEGRITY. HE IS GOOD MATERIAL FOR A DISCIPLE. NO WONDER BROTHER MU LIKES HIM SO MUCH

WILL YOU PLEASE SHOW HIM MERCY FOR MY SAKE?
ALL THE TROUBLE HE WAS TODAY ORIGINATED FROM HIM SAVING MY DAUGHTER LINGSHAN IN FUZHOU. I REALLY COULD NOT JUST STAND ASIDE AND NOT DO ANYTHING

WHEN PEOPLE FROM THE CHIVALROUS SIDE ENCOUNTER TROUBLE, THEY HELP THOSE IN NEED. THE HELP COULD BE AS MUCH AS RISKING ONE'S LIFE, OR AS LITTLE AS GIVING A WORD OF ADVICE.
WE PROBABLY HAVE TO REVERSE THAT; IT WAS MORE LIKELY THAT LINGSHAN'S SHARP EYES PICKED OUT THIS HANDSOME BOY....
WHAT? JUST WITH THE LITTLE KUNG FU HE HAS, HE COULD SAVE LINGSHAN?


BAH! IT WAS ON A WHIM, BUT I'VE LOST THAT INTEREST NOW.
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER HOW GREAT ONE'S MARTIAL ARTS SKILLS ARE, BROTHER MU, IF YOU ARE DETERMINED TO TAKE HIM AS YOUR DISCIPLE, WHY DON'T YOU LET THE YOUNG MAN ASK PERMISSION FROM HIS PARENTS FIRST, AND THEN COME TO SUBMIT HIMSELF TO YOU. WOULDN'T THAT BE A WIN-WIN SOLUTION?

EVEN IF THIS LAD KOWTOWS TO ME TEN THOUSAND TIMES NOW, I WON'T TAKE HIM ANYMORE
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HAHA I'D NEVER THOUGHT EVEN THE FAMOUS MT HUA SECT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE EVIL EXORCISING SWORDPLAY'S MANUAL. GOODBYE!
BROTHER MU, WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE A CHILD? I'LL HAVE TO SAY YOU ARE THE ONE GETTING YOUNGER NOW
BROTHER MU, WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!

SO THAT WAS INDEED THE MT HUA'S 'DIVINE VIOLET TWILIGHT TECHNIQUE' ON TOP OF THIS AMAZING INNER ENERGY, YU BUQUN'S SWORDPLAY IS ALSO OUTSTANDING. I'D BETTER NOT GET INTO A FIGHT WITH HIM.
HEHE, I HAVE NO CLUE AS TO WHAT THAT EVIL EXORCISING SWORDPLAY IS. I AM ONLY JOKING ABOUT IT SINCE I SAW HOW YU CHANGHAI OF THE QINGCHENG SECT WORKED SO HARD TO GET HIS HANDS ON IT. BROTHER YUE, PLEASE DON'T MIND ME!

PEOPLE HAVING THAT LEVEL OF SKILLS ARE RARE IN THE MARTIAL WORLD, BUT HE WOULD RATHER ABANDON HIMSELF TO... SIGH!
SO THIS IS MT HUA SECT'S LEADER! THAT MU GAOFENG WHO MANAGES TO MAKE YU CHANGHAI BACK OFF, IS IN TURN INTIMIDATED BY THIS MR YUE. TRULY, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE BETTER!

I BEG YOU, MASTER, TO TAKE ME AS YOUR DISCIPLE I PROMISE TO FOLLOW YOUR WORD OF ADVICE AND OBEY ALL SCHOOL RULES!
I WILL NEVER DARE TO NOT LISTEN TO THE MASTER'S WORDS!
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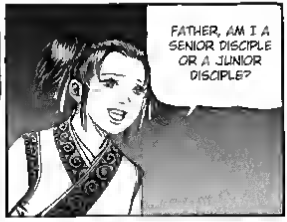
AS SOON AS I SAW YOU, MASTER, I FELT UNSPEAKABLE ADMIRATION. IT'S MY HONEST WISH FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART TO BECOME YOUR DISCIPLE.
IF I TAKE YOU AS MY DISCIPLE, HUNCHBACK MU WILL PROBABLY START A RUMOR SAYING THAT I ROBBED HIM OF HIS STUDENT.
WELL. YOUR PARENTS' WHEREABOUTS ARE STILL UNKNOWN. LET'S FOCUS ON FINDING THEM FIRST. APPRENTICESHIP CAN COME LATER.

FATHER, HE'S IN THIS SITUATION BECAUSE HE WANTED TO SAVE ME, SO PLEASE JUST ACCEPT HIM!

FINE. I WILL TAKE YOU. BUT YOU HAVE NOT ASKED PERMISSION FROM YOUR PARENTS YET. WE NEED TO FIND OUT IF THEY AGREE OR NOT!

THERE WOULD BE NO REASON WHY THEY WOULD OBJECT
IF I AM LUCKY ENOUGH TO BECOME YOUR DISCIPLE MY PARENTS WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL
MASTER, CONGRATS ON GETTING A DISCIPLE!
PINGZHI, YOU HAVE MET THESE SENIORS A WHILE BACK IN THE SMALL TEASHOP. NOW GO AHEAD AND PAY YOUR RESPECTS TO THEM.
VERY WELL. GET UP. LET'S GO FIND YOUR PARENTS

EVERYONE HERE ALL JOINED THE SCHOOL LATER THAN YOU. BUT THEY STILL CALL YOU LITTLE SHIMEI. YOU ARE DESTINED TO BE CALLED THE LITTLE SHIMEI, SO OF COURSE YOU'RE THE JUNIOR DISCIPLE AGAIN


FATHER, AM I A SENIOR DISCIPLE OR A JUNIOR DISCIPLE?

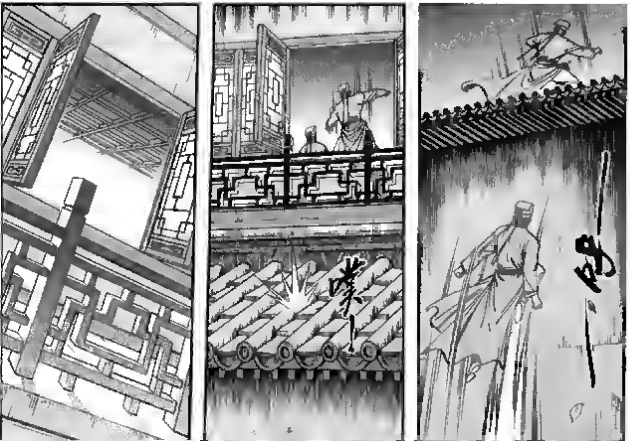
FATHER, LIN-SHIDI WILL HAVE TO CALL ME SHIJIE LATER WHEN YOU GET MORE DISCIPLES, THEY ALL HAVE TO CALL ME SHIJIE TOO!

NO WAY! STARTING FROM NOW ON, I AM GOING TO BE A SENIOR DISCIPLE

FATHER, HE CALLED ME SHIJIE OUT OF HIS OWN FREE WILL. I DIDN'T FORCE HIM.

YUE-SHIMEI. I ONLY GAINED MASTER'S MERCY AND BECAME DISCIPLE TODAY. THE ONE WHO JOINED EARLIER IS THE SENIOR. OF COURSE I AM THE JUNIOR DISCIPLE

DASHIGE WAS HIDING HERE TO RECOVER FROM HIS WOUNDS LET'S HURRY AND FIND HIM!!
YES MASTER!
GENMING DAIZI, YOU TWO GO CARRY YOUR DASHIGE OUT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MASTER, DASHIGE IS NOT HERE. THERE'S NO ONE IN THE ROOM.

I'LL GO CHECK TOO!

BUT... BUT DASHIGE IS SO BADLY WOUNDED--I AM AFRAID THAT HE WILL DIE"

NONSENSE! YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO GO INTO PLACES LIKE THIS.

FATHER, HOW... HOW DID YOU KNOW?

DON'T WORRY, HE'S ALREADY HAD NORTH HENG SECT'S TIANXIANG HEALING CONCOCTION APPLIED ON HIM. HE WON'T DIE

HE'S NOT HERE SO LET'S GO
...
ENOUGH!
LITTLE SHIMEI I'M SURE DASHIGE IS FINE!

LINGHU CHONG, YOUR MASTER AND THE REST HAVE LEFT!

BET YOUR MASTER DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO STILL BE HERE.
SURE IS QUICK THINKING ON YOUR PART TO MOVE TO THE NEXT ROOM!

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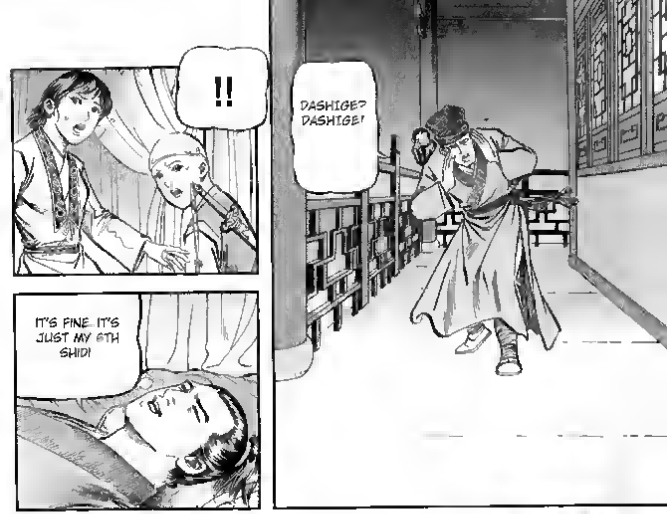
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DASHIGE? DASHIGE!
IT'S FINE. IT'S JUST MY 6TH SHIDI!

IF I ANSWER MONKEY SIX I COULD REALLY RUIN THE LITTLE NUN'S REPUTATION. BETTER KEEP QUIET!

GOOD OLD MONKEY SIX IS CLOSEST WITH ME

DASHIGE!
DASHIGE?

DON'T TELL ME HE'S REALLY GONE ALREADY?

BROTHER LINGHU, YOU'VE JUST TAKEN A HIT FROM YU CANGHAI. LET ME SEE YOUR WOUNDS AGAIN.

WHAT A WASTE TO PUT SO MUCH OF YOUR SECT'S PRECIOUS MEDICINE ON ME!

YOU'RE BLEEDING AGAIN SO I'M GOING TO APPLY MORE OF THE MEDICINAL CREAM

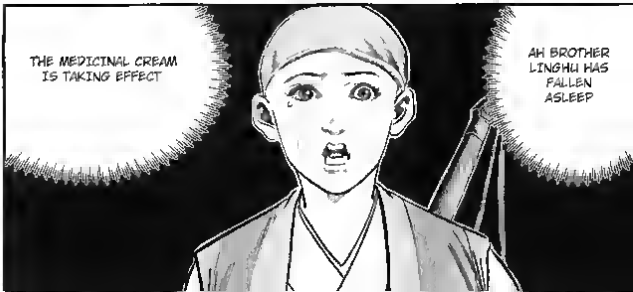
NO NEED TO PRAISE ME AS LONG AS YOUR MASTER DOESN'T SCOLD ME, I'D BE COMPLETELY THANKFUL!

EVEN MY MASTER PRAISED YOU AS A YOUNG HERO WHO IS ALWAYS READY TO TAKE ON VILLAINS FOR A JUST CAUSE
YOU WERE BADLY WOUNDED ALL BECAUSE OF ME. THIS MEDICINE IS THE LEAST I CAN OFFER, EVEN IF... EVEN IF...
BECAUSE OF THAT SHE EVEN GOT INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH MASTER YU!

WHY WOULD MY MASTER SCOLD YOU? NOW, YOU JUST NEED MORE TIME TO REST AND FOR THE WOUNDS TO CLOSE PROPERLY AND YOU'LL BE FINE

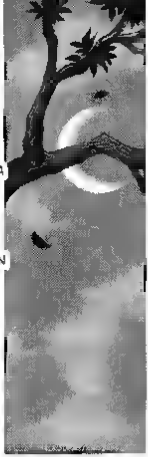
NO! NO! YOU CANNOT GO. HOW CAN I STAY HERE BY MYSELF?
SISTER, YOU STAY HERE AND BE HIS COMPANY. WATCH OUT FOR BAD GUYS WHO WANT TO GET HIM. MY GRANDPA IS STILL WAITING FOR ME. I GOT TO GO.

HMMM
OH NO, SHE'S GONE


THE MEDICINAL CREAM IS TAKING EFFECT
AH BROTHER LINGHU HAS FALLEN ASLEEP

AND NOW THERE'S JUST THE BOTH OF US HERE...

PEOPLE FROM THE BROTHEL HAD FLED A LONG TIME AGO. IT ALMOST FELT AS IF LINGHU CHONG BEHIND THE BED CURTAIN WAS THE ONLY PERSON LEFT IN THE ENTIRE WORLD BESIDE HER. YILIN SAT STIFFLY ON A CHAIR, AFRAID TO MOVE.

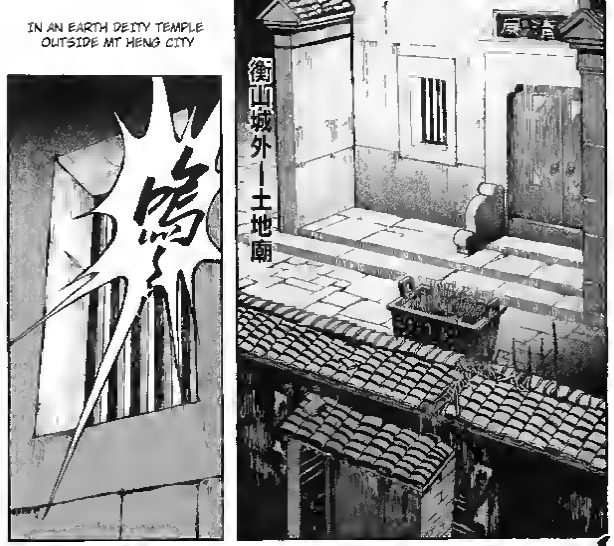


IN THE DARK NIGHT, OCCASIONAL DOG BARKS ECHOED FROM DEEP ALLEYS FAR AWAY. OTHER THAN THOSE OCCASIONAL SOUNDS, THERE WAS JUST A DEAD SILENCE.

IT'S GOING TO BE DAYBREAK SOON, AND THEN PEOPLE WOULD BE ARRIVING...

YOU TWO SEARCH THE EAST SIDE. THE TWO OF US WILL SEARCH THE WEST SIDE. IF ANYONE SPOTS LINGHU CHONG, MAKE SURE YOU CAPTURE HIM ALIVE. HE IS VERY BADLY WOUNDED AND WON'T BE ABLE TO RESIST.
GOT IT!
OH NO. IT'S THE PEOPLE FROM QINCHENG! THEY'RE BACK!

IN AN EARTH DEITY TEMPLE
OUTSIDE MT HENG CITY



RENHAO, RENZHI, HIT HIM AGAIN! WE'LL SEE HOW LONG THEY'LL KEEP UP WITH THIS!
嘭!
唰!

WHERE IS IT!?
WHERE IS THE MANUAL!?
ZH-ZHENNAN...!

STILL WON'T SAY?
FINE. RENHAO BREAK HIS FINGER!
I-I A-ALREADY SAID... DON'T KNOW...
THE SWORDPLAY HAS ALWAYS... BEEN PASSED DOWN ORALLY... THERE'S N-NO MANUAL...

H-HAUGHK

MASTER, HE'S FAINTED!

HU-GAAGH!

SIR!

WAKE HIM, THEN CONTINUE! FORCE HIM TO DIVULGE WHERE THE MANUAL IS!

THE PUGILISTS' WORLD IS ONE THAT IS ALREADY A SEA FILLED WITH HARSH TURBULENT WAVES AND NOW, ALL BECAUSE OF THE MANUAL FOR THE EVIL EXORCISING SWORDPLAY, IT AS THOUGH ANOTHER MAJOR TIDE IS CRASHING INTO THE SHORES.
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SWIRLING AND BRINGING IN WHO KNOWS HOW MUCH MORE BLOODSHED.
THOUGH THE MARTIAL FOLKS KNOW OF THE DANGER, THEY CAN'T HELP BUT BE PULLED IN BY THE WHIRL-
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